Journal
of
The Franklin Institute

DEVOTED TO

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VOL. 257.—Nos. 1537–1542
(129th Year)

JANUARY–JUNE, 1954

PHILADELPHIA
THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE
Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street
1954

LANCASTER PRESS, INC., LANCASTER, PA.

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The Franklin Institute

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VOL. 258.—Nos. 1543–1548
(129th Year)

JULY–DECEMBER, 1954

PHILADELPHIA
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Flexibility has been the strong suit of trucks from the very beginning. This latest of tools, putting the driver at all times within sound of the office, takes that flexibility a long step toward the ultimate.

"Somascope" Probes Body Secrets.—A device called the Somascope has been developed which is said to employ a combination of the principles of television, radar and sonar. It is used to look inside the human body to probe goiters, cysts, tumors, etc. in soft internal organs, in much the same way that X-rays show the bones and other such hard objects. Its developer, Dr. Douglass H. Howry of the University of Colorado Medical School, explains that the Somascope's sound waves throw back an echo from the soft tissue—the echo varying for different types of tissue—the echo in turn being transferred onto a TV-like screen as a picture, thus allowing surgeons to spot the diseased areas. Although the machine has not yet been perfected, it is the hope of Dr. Howry that it can be used to detect early cancers, as well as diseases of such organs as liver, pancreas, stomach, and intestines, which are now detected principally under exploratory surgery. He says that it can in some cases show the difference between tumors that are dangerous and those which are of no consequence.

Ultrasonic Fluxless Soldering.—Fluxless soldering is an important improvement in soldering techniques. It eliminates the need for a thorough washing to remove excess flux, and insures a joint free of contaminates often left by the flux. Fluxless soldering has been made practical by high powered ultrasonic equipment put on the market.

SONOBOND, developed by Aeroprojects, Inc., of West Chester, Pa., will tin aluminum, copper, magnesium and silver without the use of any flux. This equipment is being built with sufficient ultrasonic power to tin these metals readily on a production basis.

Aeroprojects' soldering shop has been using SONOBOND for a year and a half. Experimental or production orders of 1 to 10,000 parts are run in this pilot plant. In this way companies interested in the new process can prove its usefulness as a production method before the purchase of equipment. When a company is satisfied with the process, and production methods have been worked out, it can then procure the equipment best suited to its needs and install the operation in its own plant.

SONOBOND is simple to operate and requires no particular skill on the part of the operator. Aeroprojects' Pilot Plant operation demonstrates how simply jobs can be handled and how superior soldered joints can be made with fluxless soldering using SONOBOND.

Paper Strips Mark Road Repairs.—Paper strips cut from heavy roofing paper, painted with white traffic lacquer and sprinkled with glass beads were successfully used to route traffic around highway construction in California. Stuck to the road with asphaltic emulsion, made from petroleum, the strips can be taken up easily with a point shovel.

Collapsible Shipping Containers.—Granular materials, like dry chemicals, sugar and flour, soon may be shipped in ball-like containers that come in 2500-gal. sizes and are made of fabric and synthetic rubber, which is oil-derived. The eight-foot containers can be collapsed to two feet for storing and shipping.

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